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NPIC/PEG (1/82)

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PROBABLE DIFFUSER ASSEMBLY  
PAVLOGRAD SOLID MOTOR TEST FACILITY, USSR

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1. (S/D) SIGNIFICANCE: A PROBABLE DIFFUSER IS BEING ASSEMBLED IN PREPARATION FOR A ROCKET MOTOR TEST.

2. (S/D) REMARKS: A PROBABLE DIFFUSER IS BEING ASSEMBLED AT THE THRUST BLOCK OF PAVLOGRAD SOLID MOTOR TEST FACILITY IN PREPARATION FOR A ROCKET MOTOR TEST. FOUR SEGMENTS OF THE PROBABLE DIFFUSER HAVE BEEN PLACED IN THE TEST STAND AND ARE ABUTTED END-TO-END. A PROBABLE FIFTH SEGMENT IS ON THE RAIL LINE LEADING INTO THE TEST FACILITY. A CRANE IS NEAR THE THRUST BLOCK WITH THE BOOM EXTENDED OVER THE ENVIRONMENTAL COVER.

(S/D) FOUR SEGMENTS OF THE PROBABLE DIFFUSER WERE IDENTIFIED ON [REDACTED] AS ROCKET MOTOR SEGMENTS; HOWEVER, IMAGERY OF [REDACTED] SHOWED THAT AT LEAST TWO OF THE SEGMENTS APPEARED HOLLOW. THE POSITIONS AND PHYSICAL APPEARANCE OF THE SEGMENTS NOW SUGGEST THAT THEY ARE FOR A DIFFUSER. THE PROBABLE DIFFUSER APPEARS SIMILAR TO THE ONE USED BY THE THIokol CORPORATION FOR TESTING OF US AIR FORCE ROCKET MOTORS.

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PAVLOGRAD SOLID MOTOR TEST FACILITY IS ENGAGED IN RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT OF LAUNCH-ASSIST DEVICES, IN THE TESTING OF LARGE ROCKET MOTORS, AND IS CURRENTLY INVOLVED IN A NEW UNIDENTIFIED STATIC TEST PROGRAM.

3. [REDACTED] COORDINATES 48-26-00N 035-58-23E

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Intelligence Sources  
and Methods Involved

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